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**WATER RIGHTS
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MILL CREEK DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM ANNUAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 27, 2001

The annual meeting of the Mill Creek Distribution System was called to order at 10:20 a.m. on February 27, 2001 by committee member George Carter. Mr. Carter indicated that Chairman Pierson was out of town on other business.

The first item of business on the agenda was a review of the minutes for the 2000 meeting. The minutes were read by Mark Page. There were no corrections or additions to be made. A motion was made by James Walker, and seconded by James Farnsworth, to accept the minutes as read. The motion passed.

A discussion of the 2000 Financial Statement was led by Mr. Lee Sim. He indicated that as of January 1, 2000 there was \$3303.94 in the Trust Account. During 2000, receipts totaled \$5113.62, of which \$4888.78 was collected from regular assessments, \$18.45 in delinquent penalties, and \$206.39 in interest. Expenditures totaled \$5033.28. There are currently two delinquent accounts in the amount of \$377.00. The balance in the Trust Account as of December 31, 2000 was \$3384.28. He indicated that the Commissioner's salary has been paid for 2000, but not his travel expenses. Following a brief discussion of the Financial Statement, a motion was made by James Farnsworth, and seconded by James Walker, to accept the Financial Statement as read. The vote was unanimous.

The next item of business to be considered by the water users was the Commissioner's Report for 2000. Commissioner Robert Byrnes stated that 2000 was a good water year. The meters on the system work good if the debris can be kept out of the water. Recommendations made by the Commissioner included repairs to the Wilson Mesa Ditch from Warner Lake to Schuman Gulch. The Horse Creek Ditch needs to be repaired and the diversion modified to allow it to be locked. A great deal of water is lost through these areas. Discussion about the Wilson Mesa flume on Wilcox Flat followed. Those at the meeting felt that the measuring device must be moved to the diversion or the ditch must be piped from the diversion to Warner Lake, and from the spillway of the Lake to its current location. Mr. McKennis will be contacted about this matter. Mr. Paul Morris will also be contacted about the work on the Horse Creek ditch and headgate.

Meters have been installed on Moab Irrigation Company Diversion 1, pipelines 3 and 4, Diversion 2 pipeline, and Diversion 5 pipeline. Janie Walker's pipeline had a meter in place, but she felt it was not measuring properly. As a result, she has removed it.

There is a genuine interest to automate some, if not all, of the system in the future. The Bureau of Reclamation has installed a system on Diversion 2. It will be monitored this coming season to see how well it works, and to determine if more automation will be pursued.

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Following the Commissioner's Report, a motion was made by James Walker, and seconded by James Farnsworth, to accept the Commissioner's Report. The motion passed.

The next item of business was the preparation of the budget for 2001. It was suggested that the Commissioner be given 40¢ per mile again this season because of the high price of fuel. Next year the rate will automatically revert back to 35¢ per mile if fuel prices drop. After a brief discussion, James Farnsworth made a motion to set the budget at the same amount as in 2000, with a \$0.40/mile rate for mileage, and assess the total budget. The motion was seconded by James Walker. The motion passed unanimously. It should be noted that the assessments will be based on an average of the past five years of record because of the incomplete information that is currently available. The budget for 2001 is as follows:

Commissioner's Salary	\$3090.00
Social Security	237.00
Travel Expenses	1500.00
Insurance	70.00
Annual Report	100.00
Miscellaneous	50.00
Total	\$5047.00

Mr. Carter directed the discussion towards the recommendation of a Commissioner for 2001. Mr. Walker made the motion that Robert Byrnes be retained for a 4-year term of service, and requested that the State Engineer approve his appointment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Farnsworth. The vote was unanimous.

The final item of business was the appointment of a Water User's Committee to transact any necessary business during 2001. A motion was made by Mr. Walker, and seconded by James Farnsworth, to reappoint the same committee that served in 2000. All present voted in the affirmative. The committee is as follows:

Dale Pierson	Chairman
George Carter	Moab Irrigation Company
Janie Walker	Self
James Farnsworth	Mesa Users

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It was noted that the current Snotel information indicates a snow water equivalent of 67% of average at the LaSal Mountain site, compared to 99% in 2000. However, since the meeting it was discovered that the gage was not reading accurately. The corrected gage indicates a reading of 80% of average. The March 1 forecast flow on Mill Creek is 4300 acre-feet of water, which is 72% of average. It is expected that 2001 will be a below average water year.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Those present at the meeting included the following:

James Walker

George Carter

Bob Byrnes

James Farnsworth

Gertrudys Adkins

Lee Sim

John Larsen

Mark Page

Moab Irrigation Company/

Grand County Water Conservancy District

Moab Irrigation Company

Mill Creek Commissioner

South Mesa

Division of Water Rights - SLC

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